Etimoni Taufa

The Unique Hyena

Introduction

Hyenas are animals, which are not relatives of the cat or dog family but belong to a family of their own called hyaenidae. Hyaenidae is also their scientific name. They are miniature animals which have many predators.

Appearance

Most hyenas have fur that is normally black or brown. Their fur colours are light brown, grey, dark brown, reddish or white (some are white). Hyenas have striped or spotted fur. There are four different types of hyenas, the spotted hyena, the brown hyena, the striped hyena and the aardwolf which is not a wolf. The spotted hyena is ninety five one hundred and seventy centimetres long. Which is the longest out of all the hyenas. Striped hyenas are eighty five to one hundred and thirty centimetres long. The brown hyena is eighty six to one hundred and forty centimetres long. Did you know hyenas have no tail?

Diet

Some hyenas are carnivores. They love to eat lizards, birds, snakes, insects, vegetables and fruits. These animals may kill as many as ninety five percent of the animals that they eat. Hyenas have powerful jaws which can eat and rush bones that even lions cannot handle.

Protection

Hyenas communicate by using their laugh to protect themselves like a bird. However hyenas are larger than birds. They have gigantic groups of up to twenty five hyenas. Hyenas use their laugh as if they are saying their name to a different hyena which he or she does not know or if desperately needing help if in danger. Also, the hyena uses it’s laugh to call others if it has found food. The predators of hyenas are humans, lions and hunting dogs. They have an advantage against the lion because lions can only sprint fifty kilometres whereas a hyena can quickly sprint sixty kilometres, which means they can then escape. Hyenas are known to drive off larger predators like lions from their kills. Hyenas do not need to protect themselves very often.

Conclusion

Hyenas are interesting animals with powerful jaws. They are the only animal to communicate by laughing.